U.S. Serial No.: 10/774,308

REMARKS

Applicant thanks the Examiner for indicating that claims 23 and 24 are allowed and that claims 17 and 19 contain allowable subject matter and would be allowed if rewritten in independent form. Applicants have rewritten claim 7 to incorporate claim 17, placing claim 17 in independent form, and Applicants have rewritten 19 in independent form, as suggested by the Examiner. Claims 25-31 have been added to depend on newly rewritten independent claim 19 to correspond with the claim set dependent on amended claim 7.

Claim 13 has also been amended to correct the antecedent support for the term "the filter" as suggested by the Examiner.

Claims 1-6, 14-18 and 21-22 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer.

No new matter has been added.

Having fully responded to the Office action, the application is believed to be in condition for allowance. Should any issues arise that prevent early allowance of the above application, the examiner is invited to contact the undersigned to resolve such issues.

To the extent an extension of time is needed for consideration of this response, Applicant hereby request such extension and, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge deposit account number 502117 for any fees associated therewith.

Date: 12-/12/01

Respectfully submitted,

Lawrence T. Cullen Reg. No.: 44,489

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